

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 14-28 and 20-32 are currently pending. Claims 14, 25 and 26 are allowed. Independent claims 15-18, 30 and 31, and those claims depending therefrom, claims 20-24, 27-29 and 32 are amended herein. In a previously amendments, claims 1-13 and 19 were cancelled and the limitations of claim 19 were incorporated into now allowed claims 14, 25 and 26.

Amendment to the Claims

Independent claims 15-18, 30 and 31, and those claims depending therefrom, claims 20-24, 27-29 and 32 are amended herein so that these claims include the limitations of now cancelled claim 19. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejection based on Sakaguchi

Examiner has rejected claims 15-17, 20-24 and 27-32 as being anticipated by Sakaguchi (U.S. Patent 6,495,246). (Claim 18 was not mentioned in numbered paragraph 2 of the Detailed Action in the referenced Office Action; however, Applicants believe that this claim was intended to be included.)

In numbered paragraph 3 of the referenced action, Examiner states that claims 14, 25 and 26 are allowed. Also that the subject matter of now cancelled claims 19 was previously indicated as allowable.

In numbered paragraph 4, Examiner points out that Applicants only amended claim 14 to include the limitation of claim 19, and that claims independent claims 15-18, 30 and 31, and those claims depending therefrom, claims 20-24, 27-29 and 32 were not amended similarly. Accordingly, Applicants now amend these independent claims, and those claims depending therefrom, to include the limitation of claim 19, and regrets that these amendment were overlooked and not presented in the previous Reply.

Applicants submit that Sakaguchi does not teach or suggest a coextruded heat-sealable film structure, comprising, inter alia, a heat-sealable layer on the second side of the core layer comprising (i) a thermoplastic polymer and (ii) a slip system comprising a silicone gum having a viscosity in the range of 10 to 20 million centistokes present in amount from about 0.2 wt. % to about 2.0 wt. % of the heat-sealable layer and at least one antiblocking agent present in an

amount from about 0.05 wt. % to about 0.5 wt. % of the heat-sealable layer, as claimed in all of the claims now pending.

Rather, Sakaguchi teaches away from the claimed invention in all of the pending claims, disclosing the use of diorganopolysiloxanes which have a viscosity of less than 2 million centistokes and a molecular weight of 1×10^4 to 18×10^4 . See, col. 5-62 - col. 6, lines 1-3, where Sakaguchi states that the "the viscosity of diorganopolysiloxane (B) at 25° C. is generally about 1×10^4 to 2×10^6 centistokes and preferably about 1×10^5 to 1×10^6 centistokes." Moreover, Sakaguchi states that such diorganopolysiloxanes which have an average molecular weight that exceeds 18×10^4 cannot be uniformly compounded with heat-sealable olefin polymers.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request Examiner to (1) enter the above amendment, (2) withdraw the rejection of claims 15-18, 20-24 and 27-32, and (3) solicit a prompt notice of allowance for all pending claims. The undersigned attorney respectfully requests an interview with the Examiner via telephone to discuss any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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